

## EAST CENTRAL COLLEGE

Previous Measure: Expense and general expenditures per credit hour completed – success is a reduction in this ratio

Rationale for Change: Assess East Central College's performance as an affordable option for Missourians

Proposed Measure Summary: Cost in tuition and fees relative to Missouri's public four-year universities.

Methodology: This measure will use data from the Missouri Comprehensive Fee Survey (<http://dhe.mo.gov/data/tuitionandfees.php>). To calculate ECC's funding level, a three-year rolling average will be used, and the relative cost will be expressed as a percentage by dividing the annual cost of a full-time student (30 credit hours, tuition and general/mandatory fees) at ECC by the corresponding average (30 credit hours, tuition and general/mandatory fees) of the state's public four-year institutions. The statewide normed benchmark will be adjusted annually to account for the relative state support for community colleges versus four-year institutions in Missouri compared to the nation.

Successful Performance: Success on this measure will be defined as *either*:

- Improvement shown through three year rolling average; or
- Sustained excellence by maintaining a relative cost percentage that is below statewide benchmarks. The calculation of the national benchmark is defined below:
  - The most recent available data from IPEDS for Title IV, degree-granting, public two- and four-year institutions in the United States
    - Current calculation nationally: 44%
    - Current calculation statewide: 32%
    - To adjust to the national average based on current data, community colleges would need an additional \$706 in state appropriations per FTE.
  - To calculate a valid national benchmark any disparity in funding must be adjusted accordingly. For example, in the current year, a full-time student pays an average of \$3,270 at the two-year institutions nationally, compared to \$7,200 at the four-year institutions. When the \$706 adjustment is added, the numerator grows to \$3,976 for two-year colleges, or a normed benchmark of 55%
    - **The result of this calculation would be ECC's annual benchmark for sustained excellence.**